

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 have been canceled , new claims 21-36 being substituted therefor. New claims 21-36 are fully supported by the original disclosure. No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be approved and entered, and that prosecution on the merits now proceed with respect to new claims 21-36 set forth hereinabove.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Submitted herewith is a copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0024659 A1 (publication of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/910,747), published February 28, 2002, and a Form PTO/SB/08B listing the particulars thereof.

In U.S. Application Serial No. 09/910,747 (which was published as Publication No. US 2002/0024659 A1), an Office Action dated October 31, 2002 has been received, in which claims 1 and 2 of Application Serial No. 09/910,747 were provisionally rejected based on obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 2 of the present application. Said Office Action issued in Application Serial No. 09/910,747 is currently being considered by applicant.

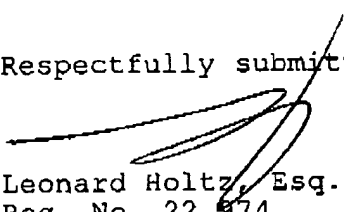
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed to inform the Examiner of related Application Serial No. 09/910,747

(published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No.  
US 2002/0024659 A1).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an  
initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08B to confirm that  
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0024659 A1  
(corresponding to related Application Serial No. 09/910,747) has  
been considered and made of record.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or  
recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the  
undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt  
action.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: November 8, 2002

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.  
767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor  
New York, New York 10017-2023  
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900  
Fax No. (212) 319-5101  
LH/sdf  
sdf/c:\d:\01-3\01449.pre